

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN JOSE DIVISION

10 Omnicell, Inc., and Pandora Data Systems,) Case No.: 10-CV-04746-LHK
11 Inc.,)
12 v. Plaintiffs,) ORDER GRANTING IN PART
13) MOTIONS TO FILE UNDER SEAL
14 Medacist Solutions Group, LLC,)
15 Defendant.)
16

17 On January 13, 2011, Plaintiffs Omnicell, Inc., and Pandora Data Systems, Inc., moved to
18 file the following documents under seal: 1) Plaintiff's response to Defendant's Motion to Dismiss
19 or For Change of Venue; 2) Exhibits B through I to the Declaration of Kenneth S. Chang in
20 Support of the Motion; and 3) the Declaration of Lora M. Nunes in Support of Plaintiffs' Response
21 to Defendant's Motion. The time to oppose Plaintiffs' administrative motions expired on January
22 18, 2011, *see* Civ. L.R. 7-11(b), and Defendant has not filed any opposition.

23 Federal courts have recognized a strong presumption that judicial records are accessible to
24 the public. *Kamakana v. City and County of Honolulu*, 447 F.3d 1172, 1178 (9th Cir. 2006).
25 Generally, a party seeking to seal a judicial record bears the burden of overcoming this
26 presumption by articulating "compelling reasons supported by specific factual findings" to justify
27 sealing the records at issue. *Id.* In the case of non-dispositive motions, however, the presumption
28 in favor of public access does not apply with equal force. *Id.* at 1179. Thus, a showing of good

cause will suffice to justify sealing material attached to non-dispositive motions. *Id.* at 1180. The Court agrees that Defendant's motion to dismiss for improper venue, or for change of venue, is a non-dispositive motion, as it will not resolve the merits of the case, and therefore Plaintiffs must make a showing of good cause to file their materials under seal. The good cause showing, however, must be "particularized," *id.*, and the Local Rules of this Court require that all requests to file under seal be "narrowly tailored to seek sealing only of sealable material." Civ. L.R. 79-5(a).

Plaintiffs request leave to file under seal on grounds that the documents at issue contain information relating to a confidential Settlement and License Agreement ("Agreement") between Pandora and Medacist. The parties appear to agree that the Agreement contains commercially sensitive business information that could cause competitive injury if made publically available. Thus, the Court finds that, to the extent that the documents discuss or disclose the terms of the Agreement, good cause exists to permit filing under seal. See *Phillips ex rel. Estates of Byrd v. General Motors Corp.*, 307 F.3d 1206, 1212 (9th Cir. 2002) (noting that courts have granted protective orders to protect confidential settlement agreements); *Tessera, Inc. v. United Test and Assembly Center Ltd.*, No. C 08-4795, 2009 WL 35242, at *4 n.1 (N.D. Cal. Jan. 6, 2009) (finding good cause to seal confidential licensing agreement). Accordingly, because Exhibits B, C, D, E, and F consist entirely or substantially of confidential material relating to the terms of the Agreement, the Court GRANTS the motion to file these documents, in their entirety, under seal.

It appears, however, that sealing the following documents in their entirety is not justified: Plaintiff's response to Defendant's Motion; Exhibits G and H; and the Declaration of Lora M. Nunes. Although these documents contain references to terms of the Agreement, they do not appear to be primarily concerned with confidential information and do not discuss the settlement and licensing provisions in detail. In particular, Plaintiff's response to Defendant's motion consists largely of legal arguments about the propriety of venue in this District, and it appears that the portions of the brief that discuss confidential or propriety information could easily be redacted. Accordingly, Plaintiffs are directed to submit a redacted version of these documents that can be filed in the public record pursuant to Civil Local Rule 79-5(c). If the redacted versions are

1 narrowly tailored to omit only sealable material, the Court will permit the unredacted versions to be
2 filed under seal.

3 Finally, it appears that Exhibit I, like Plaintiffs' opposition brief, consists largely of non-
4 confidential legal arguments. However, this document was originally filed in a related case in the
5 District of Connecticut and is currently the subject of a motion to file under seal in that case. Mot.
6 to file under Seal, Memo in Opp'n and supporting documents, *Medacist Solutions Group LLC v.*
7 *Pandora Data Sys, Inc.*, No. 3:07-cv-00692-JBA (D. Conn. Dec. 3, 2010). Because the District of
8 Connecticut is likely in a better position to determine whether this particular document should be
9 filed under seal, this Court will defer to that court's decision and will permit Exhibit I to be filed
10 under seal, unless and until the District of Connecticut rules otherwise.

11 For the foregoing reasons, the Court GRANTS the motion to file under seal as to Exhibits
12 B, C, D, E, F, and I. Plaintiffs shall submit redacted versions of Plaintiff's response to Defendant's
13 Motion, Exhibits G and H, and the Declaration of Lora M. Nunes no later than January 28, 2011.

14 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

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16 Dated: January 21, 2011
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LUCY H. KOH
United States District Judge